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Mexico

Agricultural Situation Monthly Crop Update, October 2002

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Report Highlights:

SAGARPA has revised slightly downward its corn production estimate, due to lower yields from Mexico's 2002/03 fall/winter harvest. Also, private and official sources have revised downward the sorghum production estimate for the 2002 spring/summer harvest to 1.5 MMT (see MX 2122). This would presage well for U.S. sorghum imports, as they are not subject to a import permit requirement, unlike U.S. corn.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Mexico [MX1], [MX] The tables below represent the most recent official data published by Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries, and Foodstuffs (SAGARPA). USDA does not necessarily concur with SAGARPA's data; however, it is used in these tables so that readers may have a consistent data source as a basis for their analysis. FAS/Mexico's numbers may ultimately vary significantly from those presented below because of input from non-SAGARPA sources.

FORECAST FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2002 HARVEST

Crop	Planted Area Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Already Harvested Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Projected Production Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)
CORN	977	916	4,029	4,029
SORGHUM	937	823	1,555	1,555
WHEAT	557	544	3,086	3,086
COTTON*	-	-	-	-
SOYBEANS	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	2,4651	2,2681	8,870	8,642

^{*} Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop (i.e., cotton). The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of September 30, 2002

FAS/MEXICO'S COMMENTS:

SAGARPA officials indicate that these production statistics are the preliminary final results for the spring/summer 2001 harvest. FAS/Mexico is maintaining its current production estimates. (see MX 2157, MX 2055 and MX 2077).

FORECAST FOR FALL/WINTER 2002/03 HARVEST

Crop	Planting Intention Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Already Planted Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Monthly Change Area Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Projected Production Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Fall/Winter 2002/03 (100MT)
CORN	7,263	7,258	110	15,322	536
SORGHUM	1,142	1,046	92	3,549	216
WHEAT	145	99	2	208	1
COTTON*	73	40	0	74	5
SOYBEANS	109	59	3	93	7
TOTAL	8,732	8,502	207	19,246	765

^{*} Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop, i.e., cotton. The production estimate, however, is for cottonseed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of September 30, 2002

FAS/MEXICO'S COMMENTS:

Official sources stated that the pace of planting in the projected area is on schedule. SAGARPA reduced slightly its corn production forecast (approximately 1.7 percent). In sorghum, official and private industry surveys revealed that the estimated 2002/03 fall/winter harvest production will be 3.5 MMT, which is lower than initially estimated (see MX 2122). Even though weather conditions have been favorable in the main producing areas such as the Bajio region. Post is maintaining its current PS&D forecasts (see MX 2157, MX 2055 and MX 2077).